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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO
CHANGE THE NUMERIC DESIGNATION OF UNITED STATES ROUTE 666 BEGINNING
IN GALLUP, NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, United States route 666 begins in Gallup,
New Mexico, at the old United States route 66 and runs north through Shiprock and
into Colorado and terminates at United States route 191 in Utah; and

WHEREAS, United States route 666 runs through very sparsely populated
areas of New Mexico and through more than one hundred miles of the Navajo Nation;
and

WHEREAS, the long stretch of two-lane road has a history of being the site of
many accidents and, although the rate of accidents has decreased due to road
improvements, it is still a dangerous stretch of highway; and

WHEREAS, people living near the road already live under the cloud of
opprobrium created by having a road that many believe is cursed running near their
homes and through their homeland; and

WHEREAS, the number "666" carries the stigma of being the mark of the
beast, the mark of the devil, which was described in the book of revelations in the
Bible; and

WHEREAS, there are people who refuse to travel the road, not because of the
issue of safety, but because of the fear that the devil controls events along United
States route 666; and

WHEREAS, the economy in the area is greatly depressed when compared with
many parts of the United States, and the infamy brought by the inopportune naming of
the road will only make development in the area more difficult;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the United States department of transportation be
requested to assign United States route 666 a new numeric designation as quickly as

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1 possible; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that changing the numeric designation of United
3 States route 666 would provide an added degree of comfort for those using the road;
4 and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the
6 United States secretary of transportation, the president of the Navajo Nation, the
7 speaker of the Navajo Nation council, the secretary of highway and transportation and the engineer of
8 district 6 of the state highway and transportation department.

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